DDC Reservist, SK1 Neis, USNR, Named DLA Reservist of the Year

Storekeeper First Class (SK1) Lesley Neis, USNR, has been named DLA Junior Enlisted Reservist of the Year for 2003. SK1 Neis is a member of the DLA Contingency Support Team (DCST) Distribution Operations Team (DOT) Bessemer, AL. She was recognized at a ceremony at DLA Headquarters December 15, 2003.

"Petty Officer Neis is one of the most dedicated Sailors I have ever had the pleasure to command," said CDR David Hicks, USNR, Executive Officer, DCST DOT Bessemer, AL. "She consistently performs all assignments above expectations and volunteers for the hardest duty."

As the Operations Team Leader/Leading Petty Officer at Defense Distribution Depot, Anniston AL (DDAA) drill site, SK1 Neis supervises six unit members during contributory support operations. Her direction was instrumental in completing all assignments to 100 percent satisfaction of civilian staff and Depot Commander, CDR Hicks said.

One of SK1 Neis' duties is to provide career counseling for all 42-members of the Bessemer DSCT DOT. As such, she informs and advises personnel and directs them toward the best path for their Navy career. "Only recently completing Career Information School, she immediately took the responsibility seriously and spent many hours of her own time researching service records to document awards and re-enlistment dates of unit members," said CDR Hicks. "SK1 Neis is concerned about members' welfare and she contacts new affiliates and guides them in making decisions, preventing retention problems."

SK1 Neis is an active member of the unit Career Development Board. Her direction was key in the advancement of five personnel during this period and 100% unit retention. Assisted three members in writing, documenting, and submitting waiver requests for high year tenure; all three requests were approved.

On her own initiative, SK1 Neis contacted the administrator of a web-based Navy program for advancement study. She suggested the addition of a rate-training game for the web site, resulting in the implementation of a web-based program of study for the rate of Storekeeper. Specifically, she maintained contact with the program administrator; repeated the study courses to familiarize herself with the accurate answers, spent more than 200 hours of her own time loading the data to the database, verified her data for accuracy, and offered suggestions to improve the web site after testing. As a result, Storekeepers can now study for advancement using a computer game. SK1 Neis initiated, provided data, and tested the game. The web site lists her as the database provider.

"Her involvement in originating a computer game for rate training will have far-reaching results in future advancement statistics for the rate of Storekeeper and is a testament to her concern for subordinates, retention, morale, and overall Navy pride," said CDR Hicks.

"Petty Officer Neis' performance is outstanding, consistent, and always accurate. She is most deserving of this recognition as the DLA Junior Enlisted Reservist of the Year."

SK1 Neis provided contributory support for Defense Distribution Depot, Anniston AL, (DDAA) in June 2003 and Defense Distribution Depot, Susquehanna, PA (DDSP), in September 2003.

She was chosen Navy and Marine Corps Reserve Center, Bessemer AL, Sailor of the Quarter, 4th Quarter 2002. Additionally, SK1 Neis was chosen Navy and Marine Corps Reserve Center, Bessemer AL, Sailor of the Year, for calendar year 2002.

DDMA Recognizes SFC Plunkett for Excellence

Defense Distribution Depot Mapping Activity (DDMA) has staff working around the world in Map Support Offices (MSO). These men and women have worked tirelessly during Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) and Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) to ensure the people on the front lines have the map support they need.

Staff Sergeant Alice F. Plunkett, USAF, distinguished herself by exceptionally meritorious achievement as Noncommissioned Officer in Charge (NCOIC) for Customer Service, MSO Bahrain, from November 2002 to March 2003. During this period, SSgt Plunkett accurately processed more than 100 customer requests for all types of Geospatial Information and Services products totaling over four million map sheets.

"SSgt Plunkett's efforts directly contributed to the Marine's ability to set up a functional forward deployed Contingency Logistics Center," said John Stroup, DDMA Acting Commander. "This provided Geospatial Information and Services products to all Marine Corps elements."

Sergeant Plunkett also issued more than 1.5 million map sheets to three Navy carrier battle groups, twelve Air Expeditionary Wings, two Army Divisions, and the British Royal Marines in direct support of OIF. Additionally, she played a vital role in the processing of more than 500,000 map sheets for Army, Air Force, Navy and Marine special operations units supporting OEF in the Afghanistan and the Horn of Africa region.

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